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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: Takafumi ASADA, et al §
§
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Conf. No.: 1768 § Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned
§
Appln. No.: 10/725,150 § Examiner: To Be Assigned
§
Filing Date: December 1, 2003 § Atty. Docket No.: 8861-484US (P32960-01)
§
Title: HYDRODYNAMIC BEARING AND DISK RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)

Enclosed are copies of each of the documents listed on the attached Information Disclosure Citation Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or B, which may be material to the patentability of this application and/or for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that any of the listed documents constitutes prior art, nor as an admission against interest in any manner.

In accordance with the official waiver posted July 11, 2003, wherein the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office officially waives the requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting copies of each cited U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications with respect to applications filed after June 30, 2003, we have not included copies of such cited U.S. patent and U.S. Patent Application Publications. However, we will provide copies upon request.

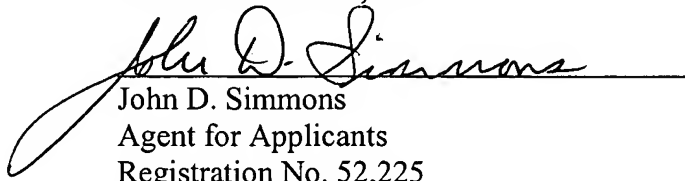
No fee is believed to be due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-1017.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement and the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or B be considered and acknowledged by the Examiner in connection with the above-identified patent application, be made of record therein, and that the listed document(s) be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,

Takafumi ASADA, et al

June 1, 2004
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Enclosures

